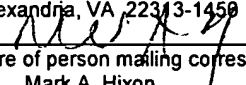


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(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Mark A. Hixon

(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

GEORG MARKOWZ et al.

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Group Art Unit:

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Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US
off PCT/EP2004/003377 filed 31 March 2004

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Examiner:

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Attorney Docket 1-17149

October 14, 2005

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action and before examination, please amend the application being filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. 371 as follows: